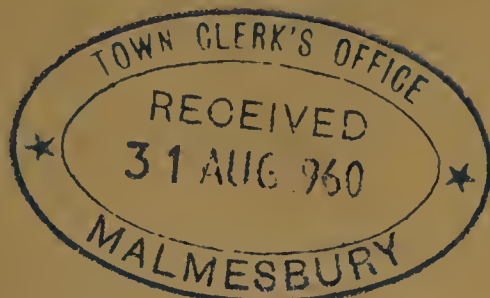


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**BOROUGH**  
**OF**  
**MALMESBURY**  
1959





BOROUGH OF MAIMESBURY

THE

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and


PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the

YEAR ENDED

31st DECEMBER

- 1959 -



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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY ETC.

(a) MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

C.L. Broomhead, T.D., M.D., B. Ch., D.P.H.  
5, High Street, Chippenham. Tel: Chipp. 2821.

Also Medical Officer of Health for the Boroughs of Calne, Chippenham and the Rural Districts of Calne & Chippenham and Malmesbury; Assistant County Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer.

(b) PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

E.H. Holroyd, Cert. R.S.I.  
Meat and Food Inspector's Cert.

who combines the duties with that of Borough Surveyor.

(c) SECRETARY TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

S.G.V. Williamson, Cert. R.I.P.H.H.

(d) PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEES.

The General Purposes Committee of the Council deals with all matters pertaining to Public Health.





Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my annual report for the year ending 31st. December, 1959 in accordance with Ministry of Health Circular 1/60 dated 8th January, 1960.

Once more the health of the population of the Borough has been satisfactory. Little or no infectious disease occurred during the year, the more serious infections being conspicuous by their absence.

The death rate per 1000 of the population was practically the same as in the previous year and the birth rate showed some increase. The principle causes of death were, as usual, Cancer, Coronary Disease and Heart Disease.

Following consultation with the Chest Physician and local investigation, the register of notified cases of Tuberculosis has been brought up to date, with the result that the number on the register has been reduced from thirty five at the end of 1958 to twenty four at the end of 1959. This reduction is due to cases been written off as recovered, left the district, or deceased. Over the last five years, the notifications of fresh cases of Tuberculosis have varied between two to four per annum.

During December, 1959, the Mass Radiography Unit visited the Borough and a Local Factory, when 364 and 488 adults respectively were examined. No active cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis, but four inactive cases were found.

The end of Tuberculosis in this country can now be reasonably anticipated, but this is unlikely for some years to come.

On the 31st December, 1959 the Council's Consulting Engineers forwarded the necessary documents relating to the new sewage disposal works for submission to the Ministry of Housing & Local Government. The condition of the river still occasions complaint from time to time.

It was not found necessary to effect the compulsory removal of any person to hospital as provided for in the National Assistance Act, 1948 Sect. 47.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

C.L. BROOMHEAD.





GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres) . . . . .	227
Population . . . . .	2690
No. of inhabited houses (end of 1959 according to the Rate Book) . . . . .	931
Rateable value . . . . .	£32,895
Sum represented by Penny Rate . . . . .	£132

VITAL STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS

<u>BIRTHS</u>	<u>MALES</u>	<u>FEMALES</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Legitimate	26	22	48
Illegitimate	2	1	3
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>51</u>

Birth Rate for the Borough . . . . .	18.9 per 1000 of the population
Comparative Rate for England & Wales . . . . .	16.5 per 1000 of the population

The Birth Rate for the Borough is higher this year as compared with the rate for 1958 which was 15.2 per 1000 of the population.

STILL BIRTHS

Three still births (females) were recorded during the year. The rate per 1000 total live and still births is 55.5. The comparative rate for England & Wales for 1959 is given as 20.7

INFANT MORTALITY

No deaths were recorded during the year in respect of children under the age of one year.



DEATHS

4

Deaths recorded in the Borough during 1959 were as follows:-

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
	20	14	34
Death Rate for the Borough . . . . .			12.6 per 1000 of the population
Comparative Rate for England & Wales . . . . .			11.6 per 1000 of the population.

The Death Rate for the Borough for 1959 is slightly higher than the rate given for 1958 which was 12.2 per 1000 of the population.

ANALYSIS OF CAUSES OF DEATH.

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-	-
Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-
Syphilitic disease	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic disease	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	1	2
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	1	-	1
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	3	3
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	-	-
Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	1	1	2
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-	-
Diabetes	-	-	-
Vascular lesions of nervous system	1	4	5
Coronary disease, angina	8	1	9
Hypertension with heart disease	1	1	2
Other heart disease	2	1	3
Other circulatory disease	1	-	1
Influenza	-	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-
Bronchitis	-	1	1
Other diseases of respiratory system	-	-	-
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	-	-
Gastritis, enteritis, diarrhoea	-	-	-
Nephritis and nephrosis	-	-	-
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-	1
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
Congenital malformations	-	-	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	2	1	3
Motor vehicle accidents	1	-	1
All other accidents	-	-	-
Suicide	-	-	-
Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
TOTAL:-	20	14	34

Whilst no deaths were recorded during the year from the infectious diseases shown in the above classified table, Cancer, Heart Disease and Coronary disease accounted for 64.7% of the total deaths in the Borough during 1959.





## PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Apart from a small outbreak of measles involving a total of 64 notifications during July and August, the Borough enjoyed complete freedom from notifiable infectious disease (other than Tuberculosis), during 1959.

### TUBERCULOSIS.

Three cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified during the year. The cases, all males, ages 14, 56 and 64 years, are under surveillance by the County Chest Physician.

Following a review of the Register, the following notified cases of tuberculosis were living in the Borough at the end of 1959.

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Pulmonary	12	10	22
Non-Pulmonary	1	1	2
Total	<u>13</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>24</u>

### DIPHTHERIA AND WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION.

The following statistics have been supplied by the County Medical Officer of Health.

#### Primary immunisations completed during 1959

	<u>Under 1 yr.</u>	<u>1-4 yrs</u>	<u>5-14 yrs</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Diphtheria	62	12	2	76
Whooping Cough	63	11	1	75

#### Total immunised child population at 31 Dec 59

Pre. 1.1.55	-	-	268	268
Post 1.1.55	16	212	233	461

### VACCINATIONS

45	3	6	54
----	---	---	----

### REVACCINATIONS

-	1	9	10
---	---	---	----

### POLIOMYELITIS (Primary immunisations completed (with two injections))

The following detail has been furnished by the County Medical Officer.

CHILDREN - born in the years 1943-1959 . . . . 158 (378)

YOUNG PERSONS - born in the years 1933-1942 . . 111 ( 39)

EXPECTANT MOTHERS . . . . . 11 ( 18)

GENERAL PRACTITIONERS & FAMILIES . . . . . - ( - )

AMBULANCE STAFF AND FAMILIES . . . . . - ( - )

DENTISTS AND FAMILIES . . . . . - ( - )

HOSPITAL STAFF . . . . . - ( - )

Note:- Figures shown in brackets refer to completed third injections.





Prescribed particulars on the administration of the  
Factories Act.

Part 1 of the Act.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health  
(including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises	No. <u>on</u> <u>Register</u>	Inspns.	Number of <u>Written</u> <u>Notices</u>	Occupiers <u>prosecuted</u>
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by L.A.'s	17	4	--	--
2. Factories not incl- uded in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the L.A.	14	8	--	--
3. Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the L.A. (excluding out-workers' premises)	--	--	--	--
<u>TOTAL:</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>--</u>

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found.		No. of cases in which prosec- utions were instituted.		
	Found	Remedied	Referred To HM Inspr.	By H.M. Inspr.	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1.)	3	3	--	--	--
Overcrowding (S.2)	--	--	--	--	--
Unreasonable Temp.	--	--	--	--	--
Inadequate Vent.	--	--	--	--	--
Ineffective drain- age of floors.	--	--	--	--	--
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) Insufficient	--	--	--	--	--
(b) Unsuitable or	2	2	--	--	--
(c) Not separate for sexes	--	--	--	--	--
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work	--	--	--	--	--
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>--</u>



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
FOR THE YEAR ENDING THE 31st. DECEMBER, 1959

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors  
of the Borough of Malmesbury:

Gentlemen:

I have the honour to present to you my thirteenth Annual Report, covering the work carried out in the Public Health Department during the year 1959.

The tables and statistics are set out in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry.

I am, Gentlemen:

Your obedient servant,

E.H. HOLROYD

-----  
INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Meat

There is one slaughterhouse in the Borough, in which killing takes place on six days weekly, including Sundays. Approximately ninety-five percent of the meat killed and dressed is sent out of the Borough. The killing of pigs continues at the Bacon Factory, but on a somewhat reduced scale.

One hundred percent inspection of all animals killed, including pigs at the Bacon Factory, has been maintained throughout the year. During my absence inspections are carried out by the local Veterinary Surgeon.

The table overleaf gives details of animals killed and inspected, together with the numbers of animals affected by disease, and includes pigs killed at the Bacon Factory.



Carcases and offals inspected and condemned in whole or in part.

	Cattle excl. cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	1,438	513	256	5,507	8,483
Number inspected	1,438	513	256	5,507	8,483
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci.</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned		11	7	1	6
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	151	93		107	73
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	10.5 %	20.2%	2.7%	1.9%	0.9%
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned		1			1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned		21	1		178
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis		4.2%			2.1%
<u>Cysticercosis</u>					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	2	Nil			
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	2	Nil			
Generalised & totally condemned	Nil	Nil			

Total weight of meat & offal condemned: 7 tons 1 cwt. 0 qrs. 2 lbs.

Food Premises

Grocers	6
Greengrocers	3
Butchers	5
Small General Shops	13
Sweetshops	5
Wet Fish Shops	2
Fried Fish Shops	2
Cake shops	2
Cafes	3
Hotels serving meals to non-residents	5







INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD (Cont'd.)Food Premises (Cont'd.)

All food premises were inspected at least once during the year, and it was not found necessary to take any prosecutions under the Food Hygiene Regulations.

The five butchers' shops are all registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, for the manufacture and sale of sausages. In addition there is one other shop registered under this section for the preparation and sale of chitterlings.

There are 22 premises from which ice cream is sold, all registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act. All these premises sell a pre-wrapped product, stored at a regular temperature by refrigeration. There were four new registrations during the year, and there are no premises in the Borough at which ice cream is made.

Milk

There is one milk producer and two milk retailers in the Borough. The business of one retailer who sold milk in the Borough from a dairy in the adjoining Rural District was acquired by one of the local dairymen. Both dairies are registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations for the sale of Tuberculin Tested milk, and one dairy is registered for the sale of Pasteurised milk. There are no pasteurisation plants in the Borough.

Bakehouses.

There are no bakehouses in the Borough, and all the bread distributed is baked elsewhere.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955

During the year the undermentioned foodstuffs were found to be unfit for human consumption, and surrender notes were issued accordingly. Diseased meat and offal from the slaughterhouse is stained and disposed of for processing or for consumption at kennels; diseased meat and offal from the Bacon Factory is burnt in the factory boiler, and other condemned foodstuffs are collected and buried at the refuse tip.

<u>Foodstuff</u>	<u>Weight</u>
Tinned meat	53 lbs.
" milk	3 "
" fruit	15 "
" fish	1 "
" vegetables	4 "
Chicken	31 "
Beef	24 "

Total weight surrendered: 1 cwt. 17 lbs.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Refuse is collected twice weekly and tipped at a site approximately one mile from the centre of the town. Periodic treatment for rats and other pests is carried out. Salvaged paper and cardboard are collected with the refuse, and a special collection is made twice monthly from business premises. Where premises are found to be without adequate dustbins notice is given to householders to provide them.



DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The whole of the Borough is served by an obsolete system of sewers, which discharge, through small catchpits, into the river. There are no works for the treatment and disposal of the sewage, and pollution of the River Avon occurs.

During the year the Ministry advised the Council that consideration would be given to naming a starting date for the new sewerage scheme. Since the scheme was first prepared there has been considerable development, both in the Borough and in the adjoining areas of the Malmesbury Rural District, which the scheme will also serve, so the Council's Consulting Engineers have been asked to revise the scheme to cater for the increased development.





## WATER SUPPLIES

Present Sources: The present source of water supply is a borehole 153 feet deep situated in the Council Depot in Park Road. An emergency supply is available from a shallow well fed by three springs in Holloway.

Yield: The average quantity of water pumped during the year was 174,000 gallons per day.

Treatment: The water is chlorinated at source. No other treatment is carried out.

Bulk Supplies: A supply in bulk of an average of 13,000 gallons per day is given to the Malmesbury Rural District Council.

Private Supplies: A private supply exists at the Premises of Messrs. Linolite Ltd, who manufacture strip lighting fittings.

Adequacy of Sources: The present source is adequate to meet present and future demands in the Borough. There was no shortage, and no difficulty was experienced in meeting demands during the dry summer.

New Works under Construction: There are no new works under construction, and no works were completed during the year.

Distribution: The distribution system in the Borough has been extnded from time to time to meet the needs of new housing sites, and the distribution is generally adequate throughout the Borough.

## GENERAL STATISTICS.

(a) Population:	2,690
(b) Private houses owned by Service Departments:	Nil
(c) Total Houses:	931
(d) Houses supplied with water by Borough Council	931
(e) Houses supplied with water by other Authorities	Nil
(f) Total houses supplied with water	931
(g) Estimated percentage of population supplied	100%
(h) New connections made during year:	5 private houses
(i) The water is not plumbo solvent	

Frequent samples for bacteriological examination were taken both before and after chlorination, and in all cases they proved to be sterile.





The conditions of employees in shops with regard to the provisions of the Shops Acts are generally satisfactory, and no serious breaches of the Acts were found.

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HOUSING

No new houses were erected by the Council during the year. Six houses were erected by private enterprise.

At the end of the year there were 52 applicants, who were either living or working in the Borough, on the waiting list for houses.

The five year programme of Slum Clearance, which was submitted to the Minister, estimated that 30 unfit houses would need to be dealt with, and details of the progress made are as follows:

Houses Demolished

11 and the Smithy, Oxford Street	2
18, 20, 22, Burnivale	3
10, 12, 14, 16, Burnham Road	4
23, Abbey Row	1
1, Gastons Road	1

Closing Orders and Undertakings Accepted

9, 16, 26, Backhill	3
43, St. John's Street	1
2, Burnham Road	1
111, 113, High Street	2
2, 4, 6, West Street	3
	<u>21</u>

Housing Act, 1957 - Part IV - Overcrowding

(a)(1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of year	Nil
(2) Number of families dwelling therein	Nil
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	Nil
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	Nil
(c)(1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	Nil
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases	Nil
(d) Particulars of any case in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	Nil



SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT

Visits and Inspections made during 1959

Investigation of complaints.....	22
Food premises.....	17
Fish shops.....	3
Ice cream premises.....	22
Butchers' shops.....	5
Restaurants.....	3
Dairies.....	6
Shops under Shops Acts.....	6
Factories.....	12
Slaughterhouse.....	325
Bacon Factory.....	104
Housing Inspections.....	9
New drainage work.....	14
Rat infestations.....	3
Moveable dwellings.....	2
	<u>553</u>

Statement of nuisances recorded and abated during 1959

<u>Nature of complaint</u>	<u>No. during</u> <u>Year</u>	<u>No. abated</u>	<u>No.</u> <u>o/s</u>
Choked drains.....	7	7	-
Defective drains.....	3	3	-
" water closets.....	2	2	-
" roofs.....	2	2	-
" gutters & rainwater pipes.....	1	1	-
" floors.....	1	-	1
" walls.....	3	2	1
" ceilings.....	1	-	1
Insanitary accumulations.....	3	3	-
Nuisance from animals.....	1	1	-
Miscellaneous.....	4	3	1
	<u>28</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>4</u>





